

# FFA Convention Fills Expanded Conference Center

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—FFA members from throughout the nation were in Kansas City recently to attend the 67th annual National FFA Convention.

An estimated record attendance of 32,000 "blue jackets" and guests participated in the world's largest annual student gathering. National competitive events, leadership seminars, educational tours, and inspirational presentations from nationally known speakers highlighted the list of activities for

students.

Additionally, the 1994 national FFA convention is highlighted by the grand opening of the newly expanded Bartle Hall. FFA is the first group to completely use and fill the new facility "wall-to-wall," providing for the largest ever National Agricultural Career Show.

The Career Show combines the most diverse set of activities ever housed in Bartle, featuring 284 exhibitors—an increase of 32 percent over last year. Hundreds of

exhibits from across the United States highlighted the show.

An exhibit from NASA, covering 20 booths, is a walk-through display which helps answer the question of how NASA's research impacts agriculture. The display features a sample of the moon rock returned to Earth via Apollo Missions. There are three sections of the display: one housing photographs of technology and a video of the current Atlantis mis-

sion in space, narrated by Hugh Downs. The second contains a small portion of a Space Station and the third is a futuristic example to give visitors a feel for what life might be like on Mars.

An aquaculture display of three tanks totaling 650 gallons of water is also available for viewing. This teaching tool, which runs on less energy than one light bulb, focuses on aquaculture, water quality and agriscience. The tanks can support 200 pounds and can include catfish, trout, minnows or snails.

An FFA Chevy Alumni truck was auctioned in connection with the FFA Alumni Convention. Bill Borer from Grand Rapids, Ohio, purchased it for \$23,200. A new 4020 John Deere tractor from John Deere Credit was also given away.

A huge shopping mall designed for FFA members, featuring 17 stores, with items ranging from

cowboy boots to sweatshirts and stuffed animals was also added along with the new additions to Bartle Hall.

A food court of nationally known chains including Taco Bell, Dairy Queen, Godfather's Pizza, LaMar's Donuts, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Subway, Robinson's Catering and a state-of-the-art McDonald's kitchen designed specifically for the FFA convention sold meals to FFA members. McDonald's has installed a booth and is trying for the first time a new, ventless exhaust system to keep odors and grease from escaping into the surrounding environment, thus allowing them to do on-site cooking.

A special Classroom 2000 Exhibit was on display, featuring new communications and teaching technology expected for agricultural education classrooms in the year 2000.

## N.Y. Farm Show Feb. 23-25

LIVERPOOL, N.Y. — The 10th annual New York Farm Show promises to be winter's biggest event for farmers.

The indoor farm show brings some 400 agribusinesses to the New York State Fairgrounds, Feb. 23-25. Show hours Thursday through Saturday are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The New York Farm Show is one-stop-shopping at its best. Want to know what's new in milking equipment and parlor design? The New York Farm Show will show you. Or have a question about tillage equipment to meet your conservation plan? Representatives from major equipment manufacturers can explain all there is to know about "iron." What about new computer software for cropping, production and accounting records? You'll find that, too, at New York Farm Show.

"New York Farm Show is a great opportunity to see different manufacturers and compare what they have to offer," said Scott Grigor, farm show manager. "Farmers can find out what's coming up for the next season — what's the latest technology, what's happening in chemicals, equipment and services. It's one-stop shopping at its best."

And if that isn't enough to prompt a late-winter trip to the Farm Show, you surely won't want to miss the expanded conservation display that includes The Choice Farm — a model farm demonstrating 30

conservation practices.

In addition, New York Farm Show hosts special farm health and safety displays and a captivating array of antique tractors and farm toys. What more could a farm family want to put the winter blahs at bay?

New York Farm Show is spon-

sored by the New York Equipment Dealers Association and *American Agriculturist* magazine. Tickets are available free from New York state farm equipment dealers or by writing New York Farm Show, P.O. Box 3470, Syracuse, NY 13220. Include a self addressed, stamped, legal envelope.

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